

Something new in Public Involvement



The Community Advisory Committee (CAC) in Indiana



Community Advisory Committee

- Mission of a CAC
- Required as part of EIS and EA process
- The first step, identify essential stakeholders
- Assemble the CAC
- Hold productive meetings
- Build on what others have done

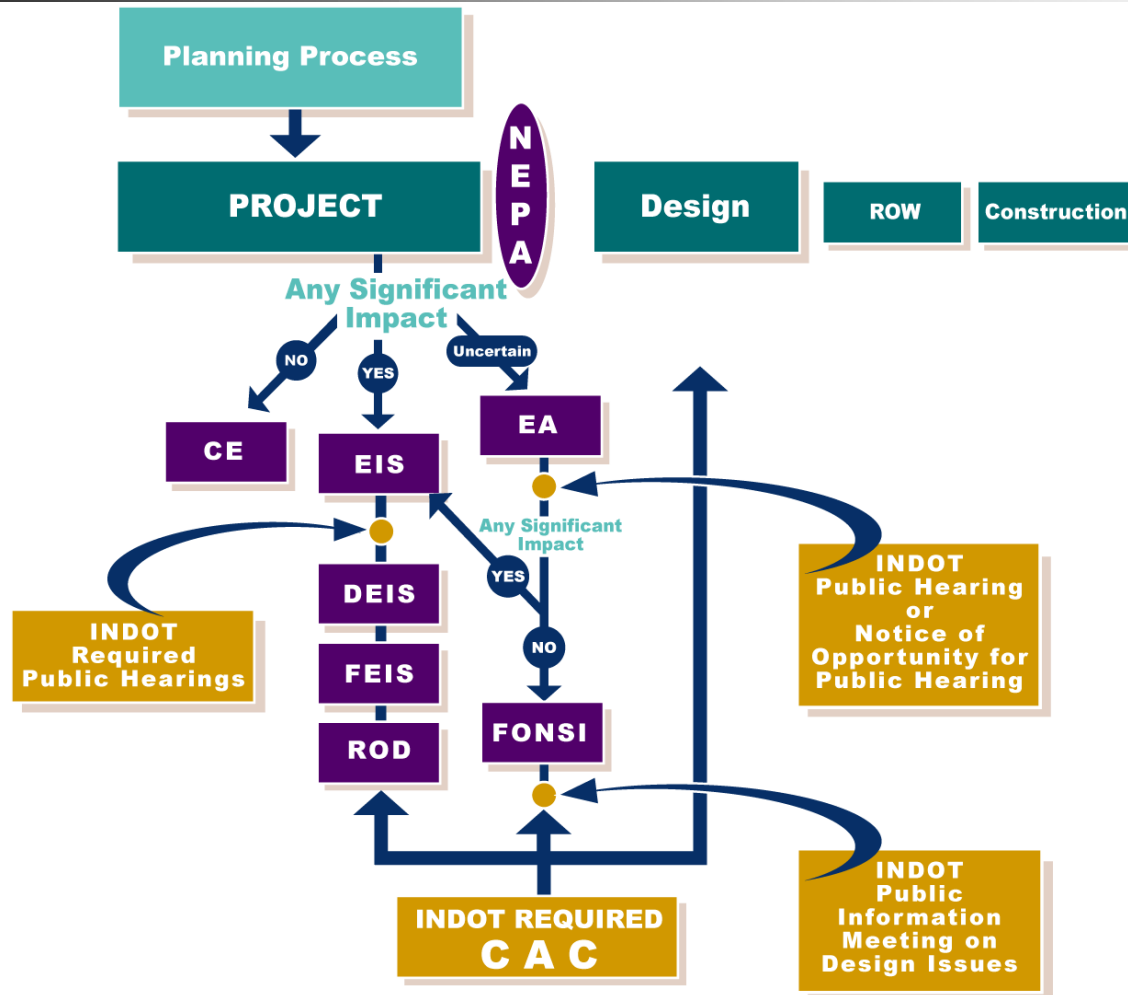


Community Advisory Committee

- Mission

- The Community Advisory Committee's (CAC) purpose is to assist INDOT and its partners with providing input on community issues and feedback on specific areas of project development. Members of the CAC will serve as liaisons to their respective groups / organizations and the community at large.
- INDOT and FHWA maintain ultimate authority over decisions regarding projects. The CAC serves an important advisory role.

Community Advisory Committee





Community Advisory Committee

- Neighborhood Assn.
- MPO
- City
- Township
- LPA
- County Council
- Emergency Management
- County Highway
- School Corporation
- Soil & Water Conservation District
- Bicycle Club
- Farm Bureau
- Fire Department
- Tourism/Business Development Organizations



Community Advisory Committee

- Assemble the CAC
 - Determine how the CAC can benefit the project
 - Define a method for communicating with CAC members
 - Invite potential members / organizations to participate
 - Require candidates to complete an application and commit to the entire CAC process
 - Select and notify CAC members



Community Advisory Committee

- Meeting Topics

- Role of the CAC
- Project overview
- Explain NEPA and Community Impact Assessments
- Select Spokesperson
- Review Purpose & Need, Alternative Analysis, Traffic Studies
- Demo GIS

- Group Assignments

- Identify neighborhood impacts
- Identify historical & cultural resources
- Identify community impact issues



Community Advisory Committee

- Meeting Topics

- Introduce preferred alternative
- Certificates and thank committee for participating
- Evaluate CAC process

- Other Communication Tools

- Pre-meeting info packets
- Web Site
- Newsletter
- E-mail

- Group Assignments

- Share information with their organization / neighborhood
- Suggest design / mitigation measures (context sensitive design)



Community Advisory Committee

- Who has been there before you?
 - Federal Highway, Larry Heil & Joyce Newland
 - INDOT, Rickie Clark
 - Michael Baker Jr., Inc. – US 231, Wendy Vachet
 - ACE – US 52, Chris Murphy
 - Blalock & Brown, Inc. – US 52, Judie Carmichael Brown
- Resources
 - Federal Highway website
 - The INDOT 2003 Public Involvement Policy & Procedures Manual will have an accompanying Handbook containing practical examples